ഡോക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ: ഇക്കൊല്ലം വലുതായ പണികളൊന്നും ചെയ്തിട്ടില്ല. ഗവൺമെൻറ് ഒരു കമ്മിറ്റിയെ വെച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. അവരുടെ അഭിപ്രായമറിഞ്ഞിട്ട് വേണ്ടതു പ്രവൃത്തിക്കാമെന്നു വിചാരിച്ചിരിക്കയാണു്. ഇപ്പോൾ ചില്ലറ പണികൾ മാത്രമെ കൊടുക്കുന്നുള്ളൂ.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. വള്ളോൻ: പി. സി. ആർ. വർക്സ് വർഷം അടക്കുന്നതിനുമുമ്പ് ചെയ്യുവാൻ ഒരുവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

ഡോക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ: ചെയ്യാം.

**363.** മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. വള്ളോൻ: താഴെ എഴുതുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക് ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവൺമെണ്ടിൽനിന്നും ഉടനെ മറുപടി നൽകുമോ.—

അധീകൃതരുടെ ആവശ്യപ്രകാരം സ്ഥാപിച്ചുകൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ള കോളനി, ജന്മമാം എന്നീ സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ അന്യസമുദായക്കാർക്ക് ടെണ്ടർവിളിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്ന സമ്പ്രദായം മാറ്റി കോളനിനിവാസികളിൽ വിശ്വാസമുണ്ടാക്കുവാൻ എല്പിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുവാൻ വിരോധമുണ്ടോ?

ഡോക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ:

അധീകൃതരുടെ ആവശ്യപ്രകാരം സ്ഥാപിച്ചുകൊടുത്തിട്ടുള്ള കോളനി, ജന്മമാം എന്നീ സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ അന്യസമുദായക്കാർക്ക് ടെണ്ടർവിളിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്ന സമ്പ്രദായം ഇപ്പോൾ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിൽ ഇല്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. വള്ളോൻ: ശ്രീമൂലം കോളനിയിൽ അതിന്റെ അവധി എടുക്കുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടി പുറത്തുള്ള ചിലർക്കു ടെണ്ടർ വിളിച്ചു കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നാണ് അറിയുന്നതു്. അതു ശരിയാണെങ്കിൽ അതു് അയാളിൽ നിന്നു് മാറ്റിയാക്കി കോളനി നിവാസികളിൽ ആർക്കെങ്കിലും കൊടുക്കുവാൻ ഒരുവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

ഡോക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ: അതിനെപ്പറ്റി അന്വേഷിച്ചു വേണ്ടതു ചെയ്യാം.

## CYANOGASSING AT MATTANCHERI

**364. Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the statement made by the Diwan of Travancore in the Legislative Assembly regarding duration of cyanogassing conducted at Mattancheri has come to the notice of the Government;

(*b*) if so, whether the allegations contained in the above statement are true;

(*c*) if otherwise, the length of time taken for cyanogassing at Mattancheri station?



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**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No, they are not true.

(*c*) Formerly it was 2 hours. Now it has been extended to 3 hours.

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. എം. പീറർ: മട്ടാഞ്ചേരിയിൽ പ്ലേഗ് ഉണ്ടായിട്ട് വല്ല മരണവുമുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

ഡോക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ: ഒന്നര രണ്ട് മാസത്തിനിടക്ക് ഒരു മരണവും ഉണ്ടായിട്ടില്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. എം. പീറർ: പ്ലേഗ് ഡിക്ലറേഷനശേഷം എത്ര ആളുകൾക്ക് പ്ലേഗ് ബാധിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. എത്രപേർ അതുമൂലം മരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്?

ഡോക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ: അഞ്ചോ ആറൊപേക്ക് സുഖക്കേട് ബാധിക്കയുണ്ടായിട്ടുണ്ട്. അതിൽ ഒരാൾ മരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. എം. പീറർ: അഞ്ചോ ആറോ മാസത്തിനിടക്ക് ഒരു മരണമല്ലെ ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളൂ?

ഡോക്ടർ എ. ആർ. മേനോൻ: അതെ.

**365. Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* Will the Government be pleased to state whether cyanogassing was first introduced and conducted in Mattancheri after consultation with the Travancore Government under the advice of the Health Department of the Government of India?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* No.

**366. Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the grievances of the public by reason of boats cyanogassed at Mattancheri being detained for a number of days at the Travancore borders especially at Chakkarakadavu have come to the notice of the Government;

(*b*) if so, what action was taken to redress the same?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Travancore Government was addressed in the matter through the Resident for the Madras States.

**367. Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Government have received complaints regarding boats proceeding

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with goods intended for British India and Cochin State having been unnecessarily held up at the Travancore borders especially at Chakkarakadavu in spite of the fact that the goods carried by such boats are duly cyanogassed at Mattancheri and that the goods are destined for places outside Travancore State?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes, there were such complaints before.

**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* In answer to sub-division C, Question 364, it is stated that formerly it was two hours. May I know what this 'formerly' means?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* From the very beginning we started this work, it was two hours.

**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* May I know when it was first started?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* I can't say.

**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry ):* Was it not started in 1113 after consultation with the representatives of the Travancore and Cochin Governments?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes.

**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* It is stated in answer to Question 364 (*b*) that the statements are not true. Then how this untrue statement came in? I may be enlightenend on the point.

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* I said it is not true. I shall read the report of the Medical Officer.

"In obedience to the order of the Government, I have the honour to submit the following remarks on Dr. Gopala Pillai's publication dated 14th February 1940:

My statement that goods leaving Mattancheri are cyanogassed for 3 hours is true. It is stated the statement contained in the publication that fumigation was not done for 3 hours but only for 15 minutes, is based upon the facts that the Director of Public Health, Travancore, had occasions to gather from numerous reliable sources. The sources on which he relies seem to be the statements of certain Valans. He also draws the inference that because a large number of valloms are released from Mattancheri daily, it would unmistakably show that cyanogassing was inadequately done. The inference is wrong and unwarranted.

Unlike Travancore Government cyanogassing only 4 or 5 boats daily, thereby detaining, boats for 15 and 20 days, my Department

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under strict orders from Government are cyanogassing 30 and more valloms simultaneously with the result that more than hundred boats are let off daily. It is rarely any boat is detained here for more than 24 hours. When this delay and the consequent inconvenience of the merchants was pointed out to Dr. Pillai, he confessed at the Conference which met at the Hon'ble Minister's residence at Ernakulam, that Travancore Government had not at that time necessary equipments to deal with a large number of boats and that measures would be taken to get over the inconvenience caused by the delay. Because one finds it difficult to discharge his duties expeditiously it should not be made the cause for complaint against another who is endeavouring to discharge his duties with the least inconvenience to the mercantile class.

I am really surprised that a responsible officer of a neighbouring friendly State should make accusations against my Department merely on the basis of heresay and without taking any pains whatsoever to find out the true facts for himself.

His further statement that he did not visit the cyanogassing operations at Mattancheri or offer any suggestions or criticisms about the procedure adopted there was due to the fact that the Cochin Government requested him to inform them of such visits in advance and that if this procedure was followed, the purpose for which those visits were intended would be defeated. The obvious inference is that this Government manipulate things in such a way as to deceive the Travancore Public Health Director. The statement is beneath notice and I do not wish to make any further comment on it.

I may assure the government that the work is being carried on very vigorously and conscientiously. I myself am taking personal charge of the operations leaving all my other duties to subordinates. In conclusion, I would earnestly assure the government that the statements contained in Mr. Gopala Pillai's publication are without foundation."

**Mr. A. B. Salem** *(Mattancheri):* Was a copy of this report sent to Mr. Gopala Pillai?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* No.

**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* With reference to the answer to Question 366 (*b*) may I know what was the reply from the Travancore Government through the Resident?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* The Resident communicated our complaint to the Travancore Government and necessary measures were taken to remove these restrictions.

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**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* What were the measures taken?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* Boats are not unnecessarily delayed.

**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* For how many days were the boats stranded at Arukutty and Chakkarakadavu?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* For 16, 17 and even 20 days.

**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* May I know whether these boats were cyanogassed at Mattancheri?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes.

**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* Is it necessary that cyanogassing should be done more than once?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* The point is, the Travancore Government thought that our method of cyanogassing is not as efficient as it should be, and therefore they thought it their duty to submit to the process of cyanogassing a second time. But I would call the attention of this House that even in spite of that, plague was raging in Alleppy. Therefore, whatever may be the value of the cyanogassing method adopted by both the governments, either both the governments must be faulty or the method itself is faulty.

**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* May I know why the valloms passing through Cochin waters and going to Trichur and Cranganur were stranded at Chakkarakadavu?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* Because they pass through Travancore boundary and they detain all these boats. Of course it was in this connection that the matter was brought to the notice of the Resident. If the boats pass through their waters, they are entitled to detain the boats.

**Mr. A. B. Salem** *(Mattancheri):* Are they entitled to cyanogas boats?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* I think they have got a right.

**Mr. V. J. Mathai** *(Planters):* Are all the valloms to Trichur to pass through Chakkarakadavu?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes.

**Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar** *(Cheruthuruthi):* Are these boats carrying plague bacillii?

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**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development)*: The bacillii may be in the goods.

**Mr. A. B. Salem** *(Mattancheri)*: It is a well known rule that goods in transit from one State to another State should not be detained.

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development)*: That is a matter of Inter-National Law.

**Mr. V. J. Mathai** *(Planters)*: Is the present state of affairs satisfactory?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development)*: Yes, very satisfactory.

**Mr. V. J. Mathai** *(Planters)*: What is the delay for these valloms due to?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development)*: No delay now. We are sending all the valloms within 24 hours.

**Mr. C. V. Iyyu** *(Kunnamkulam)*: Are the boats stranded at Chakkarakadavu?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development)*: Now, no cyanogassing takes place except at Mattancheri.

**Mr. C. V. Iyyu** *(Kunnamkulam)*: With reference to Question 364 (*b*), may I know whether the Travancore Government have withdrawn that untrue statement?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development)*: You please address the Travancore Diwan. What can I say?

**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry)*: May I know whether Lieutenant Colonel Cotton examined the godowns? May I know what was his decision?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development)*: He said it was satisfactory.

**Mr. C. V. Iyyu** *(Kunnamkulam)*: May I know what is the status of the Travancore officer?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development)*: He is a Sanitary Inspector.

**Mr. C. V. Iyyu** *(Kunnamkulam)*: May I know what is the status of the gentleman now representing the Public Health Department of the Government of India?

**Mr. A. B. Salem** *(Mattancheri)*: I hope the Government would do away with Travancore officers.

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**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* May I know whether there are any areas in Travancore which are declared as plague-infected areas?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes.

**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* May I know whether goods are coming from there?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes.

**Mr. C. R. Iyyunni** *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether rubber and other articles are cyanogassed?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* No.

**Mr. C. V. Iyyu** *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether goods coming from Malabar are cyanogassed?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* Goods coming from Malabar need not be cyanogassed, because those places are not declared plague-infected, whereas Alleppey and Quilon are declared plague-infected by the Travancore Durbar.

**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* How many attacks were there?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* As a matter of fact, occasionally sporadic attacks here and there take place; two cases in Salem, two in Coimbatore, one in Calicut. They do not declare those areas to be plague-infected.

**Mr. A. B. Salem** *(Mattancheri):* Are goods coming from Salem cyanogassed?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* No, because it is not officially declared a plague-infected area?

**Mr. A. B. Salem** *(Mattancheri):* May I know what is the status of the officer who is co-operating with the Travancore officer?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* Two Sanitary Inspectors are in charge. It is to their satisfaction. The Travancore Government evidently presume that we are not doing our duty properly and that we do not know our responsibility in dealing with a serious situation like this. Therefore they thought for the safety of the public that one of their representatives must be there. What is the status and what the qualifications are, are not matters concerning us.

**Mr. V. J. Mathai** *(Planters):* Are valloms coming from Alleppey cyanogassed there?

**Mr. President:** We do not know anything about it. It is a matter for them.

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**Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan** *(Commerce and Industry):* Is it not necessary for the safety of the port that the Cochin Government also cyanogas the boats ?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* We are doing that, of course, with reasonable exception, and also looking to the convenience of the mercantile community, and not a single complaint has been received from any one of them.

**Mr. C. R. Iyyunni** *(Trichur-South):* I understand that there are two articles that are exempt from cyanogassing. What are they ?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* Tea, Rubber and Cashewnuts. Cashewnuts come in bags. So they are not cyanogassed.

**Mr. A. B. Salem** *(Mattancheri):* Is the Government aware that prawns are cyanogassed?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Developmet):* I consulted the Technical Adviser of the Government and he advised me that prawns should be submitted to cyanogassing.

**Mr. A. B. Salem** *(Mattancheri):* Will it not be sufficient to cyanogas the godowns ?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* No. Because you expose it.

**Mr. N. Govinda Pai** *(Nominated):* In the process of cyanogassing, there was a particular method adopted with regard to sugar and wheat flour which were exposed to the sun and other goods are not. Is there any particularity in it ?

**Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* It will be spoiled by cyanogassing.

## CHITTUR IRRIGATION WATCHMEN

**368.** മിസ്സർ. എൻ. വി. സുബ്ബരായൻ വെട്ടിയാർ: താഴെ പറയുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്കു ഗവർമ്മെണ്ടു് സദയം മറുപടി പറയുമോ.—

(എ) ചിറ്റൂർ താലൂക്കിലുള്ള ഇറിഗേഷനിൽ ജോലിനോക്കിവന്നിരുന്ന വാച്ചുമാന്മാർ എത്രപേരെ ഇക്കൊല്ലത്തിൽ പിരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്;

(ബി) അവരെ പിരിച്ചു് പുതിയ ആൾക്കാരെ വെക്കുവാനുള്ള കാരണം എന്താണു്;

(സി) പുതിയ ആൾക്കാരെ വെച്ചതു് ഈ താലൂക്കിൽപ്പെട്ടവരാണോ;

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